

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A mouthguard of generally "C-shaped" configuration so as to provide a front portion and two arms diverging rearwardly from the front portion, the mouthguard being of a "U-shaped" transverse cross-section so as to provide an inner and an outer flange joined by a base, wherein said base has a lower surface providing a lower occlusal table which is generally perpendicular to the inner flange with the base also having an upper occlusal table which is inclined with respect to the inner flange by an angle of between 100 and 120°.

2. (Previously Presented) A mouthguard of generally "C-shaped" configuration so as to provide a front portion and two arms diverging rearwardly from the front portion, the mouthguard being of a "U-shaped" transverse cross-section so as to provide an inner and an outer flange joined by a base, wherein said base has an upper occlusal table which is inclined to the inner flange by an angle of between 100 and 120 degrees.

3. (Previously Presented) A mouthguard of generally "C-shaped" configuration so as to provide a front portion and two arms diverging rearwardly from the front portion which has a length extending between the two arms, the mouthguard being of a "U-shaped" transverse cross-section so as to provide an inner and an outer flange joined by a base, wherein the mouthguard includes a thickened portion of said outer flange, said thickened

portion being thickened across the entire length of said front portion so as to provide a labial shield.

4. (Previously Presented) A mouthguard of generally "C-shaped" configuration so as to provide a front portion and two arms diverging rearwardly from the front portion, the mouthguard being of a "U-shaped" transverse cross-section so as to provide an inner flange and an outer flange joined by a base, wherein the base has a lower surface provided with a shield in the form of a ridge below the base and extending rearwardly from adjacent the outer flange toward the inner flange, and extending substantially along each arm.

Claim 5 (Cancelled)

6. (Previously Presented) A mouthguard including a body of generally "C-shaped" configuration so as to provide a front portion and two arms diverging rearwardly from the front portion, the mouthguard being of a "U-shaped" transverse cross-section so as to provide an inner and an outer flange joined by a base, with said arms having end extremities, said mouthguard further including a labial shield embedded in said front portion and extending therefrom through the arms to adjacent extremities thereof so as to provide shield portions in each arm, said body and shield being formed of plastics material, with said shield being more rigid than said body.

7. (Original) The mouthguard of claim 6, wherein the shield is a single piece.

8. (Original) The mouthguard of claim 6, wherein said shield is formed of a set of shield members including a front part embedded in said front portion, and two rear parts separate to the front part, each rear part being located in a respective one of the arms.

9. (Previously Presented) A mouthguard including a mouthguard body of generally "C-shaped" configuration so as to provide a front portion and two arms diverging rearwardly from the front portion, the mouthguard being of a "U-shaped" transverse cross-section so as to provide an inner and an outer flange joined by a base, wherein internal surfaces of the body are provided with deformable key means to engage a mouldable material to be received within the body, the key means being plastically deformable to retain the mouldable material.

10. (Previously Presented) The mouthguard of claim 9, wherein means comprises deformable projections.

11. (Original) The mouthguard of claim 10, wherein the deformable projections are located on said based.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) A mouthguard having a mouthguard body according to

of claim 9, and mouldable material contained within the mouthguard body.

15. (Previously Presented) The mouthguard of claim 14, wherein the keying means are deformable projections and projections are deformed to engage the mouldable material.

16. (Previously Presented) The mouthguard of claim 14, wherein the mouldable material is vinyl containing polydimethylsiloxane.

17. (Original) The mouthguard of claim 16, wherein the mouthguard body is formed of an EVA copolymer.

18 - 24 (Canceled)

25. (Previously Presented) The mouthguard of claim 1 including a body with said "C-shaped configuration, wherein internal surfaces of the body are provided with deformable key means to engage a mouldable material to be received within the body, said key means being pastically deformed to retain the mouldable material in the body.

26. (Previously Presented) The mouthguard of claim 25, wherein said deformable projections are located on said base.

27. (Previously Presented) The mouthguard according to claim 26 including said mouldable material within the mouthguard body.

28. (Previously Presented) The mouthguard of claim 27, wherein said projections are deformed to engage the mouldable material.

29. (Previously Presented) The mouthguard of claim 27, wherein said mouldable material is vinyl containing polydimethylsiloxane.

30. (Previously presented) The mouthguard of claim 29, wherein said mouthguard body is formed of an EVA copolymer.

31. (Previously Presented) The mouthguard of claim 26, wherein said deformable key means comprises hollow projections of a generally cylindrical configuration.

32. (Previously Presented) The mouthguard of claim 18, wherein said outer flange includes a thickened portion at said front portion.

33. (Previously Presented) The mouthguard of claim 32, wherein the base has a lower surface provided with a shield adjacent to the outer flange, said shield extending substantially along each said arm.

34. (Previously Presented) The mouthguard of claim 1, wherein said base has an upper surface with a forward portion raised relative to arm portions thereof.

35. (Previously Presented) The mouthguard of claim 19, including a body of said

"C-shaped" configuration, said arms having end extremities, said mouthguard further including a labial shield embedded in said front portion and extending therefrom along the arms to the extremities, said body and shield being formed of plastic material, with said shield being more rigid than said body.

36. (Previously Presented) The mouthguard of claim 35, wherein the shield is a single piece.

37. (Previously Presented) The mouthguard of claim 35, wherein said shield is formed of a set of shield members including a front part embedded in said front portion, and two rear parts separate from the front part, each rear part being located in a respective one of the arms.